

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

LOCAL COMMITTEE (WOKING)

DATE: 5 MARCH 2014

SUBJECT: WRITTEN MEMBER QUESTIONS

DIVISION: WOKING



1. Question from Ann-Marie Barker, Woking Borough Council

I have recently had experience of a pothole in my ward that was filled three times over a six week period. Please can I be informed ...

- a. How often have potholes in Woking had to be filled on multiple occasions
 - i. In the last 6 months
 - ii. In the last year
 - iii. In the last 3 years
- b. Is the local taxpayer meeting the cost of this repeat work?
- c. What is going wrong with the process for filling potholes?

Answer from Chairman on behalf of the committee:

No information is available to confirm the number of potholes that have been repaired on more than one occasion. The contract for repair of safety defects is based on a lump sum payment, which means that the contractor is paid a fixed sum of money to repair safety defects, however many there are, or how ever often they require repair. This gives the contractor a clear contractual incentive to ensure that defects are repaired correctly on the first occasion.

However, the weather over the Winter period has caused extensive damage to the public highway, and the increase in the number of safety defects appearing on the network has put considerable strain on our contractors resources. To put this in context, over the period of December, January and February of 2012/13, 10,927 safety defects were reported for repair. Over the same period in 2013/14, 21,291 defects have been reported. This is a doubling of demand on our contractor, and this has meant that in many circumstances the contractor has had to undertake temporary rather than permanent repairs, as the priority has to be maintaining the public highway in a safe condition. Prolonged rainfall has resulted in road surfaces being wet for extended periods of time, and repairs carried out under such conditions tend not to last as well as repairs carried out when weather conditions are ideal.

If there are concerns about the repair of any particular safety defect, or the quality of work carried out by our contractor, I would advise that this is raised with Surrey Highways so that this can be investigated and responded to.

2. Question from Ann-Marie Barker, Woking Borough Council

How many schools in the following areas have current Travel Plans in place for staff, parents and visitors?

- a. Horsell
- b. Woking Borough

Answer from Chairman on behalf of the committee:

Every school in Woking had a travel plan prior to the grant for their submission being stopped in 2010 (this includes Horsell). It is now the schools' responsibility to keep this updated. All travel plans cover pupils, teachers and visitors.

At present the Community Engagement team are focusing on the Travel Plans for schools that are expanding due to the expansion programme being run in Woking this includes Beaufort, Brookwood, Goldsworth, Westfield and West Byfleet Infants and Juniors.